

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 1 and 2 (underneath the title) insert –

Background of the Invention –;

Page 3, change lines 15-30 to read as follows:

– ~~Object~~ Summary of the invention

One object of the invention is to provide a solution to the problem of the life of contact nozzles for electric arc welding with continuous welding wire flowed through by current being too short. Another object is to provide a contact nozzle which contributes to stabilizing the welding process. A further object is to provide a contact nozzle with a low manufacturing cost in spite of good wear characteristics and welding process characteristics. The invention achieves these objects in ways described herein ~~in the independent patent claims~~.

Advantageous embodiments of the contact nozzles above are also defined ~~in the subclaims~~ herein –;

Page 4, change line 17 to read as follows:

– Description of preferred embodiments –; and

Page 6, change lines 5-7 to read as follows:

– The invention is not limited to the embodiments described but can also comprise other embodiments within the scope thereof ~~of the patent claims~~. -